Three developmental works amounting to Rs. 32.00 crore have been sanctioned for the improvement of NH-48 passing through Shiradi Ghat area (Shakaleshpur–Mangalore section). Out of these, two works have been awarded with twelve month completion period and are likely to be completed by June, 2008. For the third work, revised cost estimate based on tender is under consideration which will be completed after twelve months from the date of award. There has been some delay in the award and execution of sanctioned improvement works due to poor participation by contracting agencies.

Eastern by-pass for Jaipur

1935. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jaipur City needs an eastern by-pass to by-pass heavy vehicular traffic of National Highway;

(b) if so, by when the sanctions for by-pass connecting NH-8 (Ajmer-Jaipur) to NH-12 (Jaipur-Tonk), NH-12 (Tonk-Jaipur) to NH-11 (Jaipur-Agra) and NH-11 (Agra-Jaipur) to NH-8 (Jaipur-Delhi) are to be accorded by Central Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) There is already a Jaipur by-pass on western side of NH-8 connecting NH-8 (Delhi-Jaipur), NH-11 (Jaipur-Bikaner) and NH-8 (Jaipur-Ajmer). The need for construction of Jaipur bypass on eastern side of NH-8 connecting NH-8 (Ajmer-Jaipur), NH-12 (Jaipur- Tonk), NH-11 (Jaipur-Agra) and NH-8 (Jaipur-Delhi) was under consideration for inclusion under NHDP Phase VII. Due to *inter-se* priority of works, Jaipur City is not in the list of cities identified so far by the Ministry for construction of Ring Roads/By-passes under the first phase of NHDP Phase VII (*i.e.* Phase VIIA). However, this phase is yet to be approved by the Government.

Four-laning of Patna-Hajipur-Muzaffarpur road

†1936. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a plan to develop and construct Patna-Hajipur-Muzaffarpur road under NHDP into a four-lane road; and

(b) if so, the latest and complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) 4-laning of Patna-Hajipur-Muzaffarpur section of NH-19 and NH-77 has been included under NHDP Phase IIIA on BOT basis.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Patna-Hajipur section of NH-19 is already four lane. Bids were invited on BOT (Toll) mode for 4-laning of Hajipur-Muzaffarpur section of NH-77 , but no bid has been received till last date of submission of bid *i.e.* 20.08.2007.

Construction of roads under NHDP

1937. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance on National Highways Development Programme (NHDP) is poor and the pace of construction of roads is slow;

(b) whether any irregularities/scam in the construction of roads have come to the notice of Government and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the quantum of money lost by Government due to slow progress in the construction of roads; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to accelerate the pace of construction of quality roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) There has been some delays in the completion of some contracts under National Highways Development Programme (NHDP), due to problems associated with acquisition of land, shifting of utilities, environment and forest clearances, poor performance of some contractors and termination of some contracts etc.

(b) The details of complaints received in Vigilance Division of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) during last five years are as under:–

Year	Complaint received
2003	26
2004	41
2005	37
2006	64
2007	41

Irregularities noticed after completion of investigation are being attended/ rectified or amount recovered from the Contractor/Consultant and also action against the staff is taken up if they are found guilty.

(c) In case the delay is attributable to NHAI, necessary extension of time is accorded to the contractor as per conditions of contract. However, in case the contractor does not complete the project in the extended period of time (if applicable), the necessary liquidated damages as per the contract provisions is levied on the contractor.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to accelerate the pace of construction of National Highways are given in the Statement.